MR. R. M. STATHAM (*Director of Public Instruction*): Representations were received to increase the pay of the Koran teachers and as far as the departmental Koran teachers are concerned to make them pensionable. But I do not know whether representations have been made to make them equal to the pay of other teachers.

MR. N. ABDUR RAHIMAN SAHIB (*Nominated*): May I know from the member whether the question of enhancement of their pay has been considered by the Government?

MR. R. M. STATHAM (*Director of Public Instruction*): Recommendations have been made to Government and Government are considering them.

Office of the Assistant Inspector of Schools, District III.

132. ***MR. M. MAHOMED HANEEF** (*Nominated*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether they have received representations from the public of Vilavankod taluk praying that the office of the Assistant Inspector of Vernacular Schools, District III, at Kuzhittura, may not be shifted to Martandam;

(*b*) if the answer to part (*a*) is in the affirmative, whether they have taken any action on the same; and

(*c*) whether they are aware that the proposed shifting of the above office is inconvenient to the public as well as to the department concerned?

MR. R. M. STATHAM (*Director of Public Instruction*): (*a*) Yes.

(*b*) The office has not been shifted to Martandam.

(*c*) This does not arise in view of the answer to part (*b*).

Public Health Department.

133. ***MR. S. J. NAIR** (*Nedumangad*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) how many officers are employed now in the Public Health Department as officers specially qualified for the department;

(*b*) whether it is a fact that the Government intend newly appointing a special officer as the Head of the Department; and

(*c*) if the answer to part (*b*) is in the affirmative, whether the new officer is to be appointed from outside?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): (*a*) The question is not clear. If the member refers to officers having special qualifications obtained in Europe or America, then the number of such officers is four.

(*b*) and (*c*) The matter is under consideration.

MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*): May I know from the member whether the claims of those four officers mentioned just now would be considered when the Head of the Department is newly appointed?

PRESIDENT: It is asking for opinion.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly